

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

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PASS USDA FOR ASST SECY HATHAWAY; DIR OF AGECON HJORT;
HUME, G.H. WHITE AND WITCHER, FAS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, OECD, EEWT

SUBJECT: EAST-WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS: OECD WORK ON
AGRICULTURE

REF: A. OECD PARIS 8647 B. OECD PARIS AIRGRAM A-26
C. STATE 55700

1. SUMMARY. AS PART OF ORGANIZATION'S WORK PROGRAM ON
E-W ECONOMIC RELATIONS, OECD AGRICULTURE DIRECTORATE
IS PROPOSING THAT SMALL GROUP OF EXPERTS FROM INTERESTED
GOVERNMENTS MEET IN PARIS THIS SUMMER TO WRITE PAPERS
ON KEY QUESTIONS RELATING TO EASTERN AGRICULTURAL
PROSPECTS. AGRICULTURE DIRECTOR SIMANTOV HAS ASKED
THAT THE U.S. MAKE AVAILABLE SUCH EXPERTS. MISSION
RECOMMENDS THAT U.S. SUPPORT SIMANTOV IN HIS EFFORTS
TO ACTIVATE AGRICULTURAL COMPONENT OF EAST-WEST WORK
PROGRAM AND OFFER TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATE U.S. EXPERTISE.
END SUMMARY.

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2. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT DURING MARCH 16-18
MEETING OF THE OECD AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE, AGRICULTURE
DIRECTOR SIMANTOV PROPOSED THAT EXPERTS FROM MEMBER
GOVERNMENTS MEET IN PARIS TO WRITE A PAPER ON EASTERN
AGRICULTURE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE OECD-WIDE WORK
PROGRAM ON EAST-WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS. SIMANTOV HAS

NOW FOLLOWED UP THIS PROPOSAL WITH A LETTER REQUESTING GOVERNMENTS TO GIVE AN INDICATION BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING OF THE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE (NOW SCHEDULED FOR LATE JUNE) WHETHER THEY WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO CONTRIBUTE TO SUCH WORK AND TO NOMINATE ONE OR TWO EXPERTS, WHO WOULD BE EXPECTED TO ATTEND A MEETING IN PARIS AT THE END OF JULY. HE HAS INDICATED THAT HE EXPECTS THE EXPERTS WOULD DIVIDE UP THE PROJECT IN A SUITABLE WAY AND PREPARE PAPERS OVER THE SUMMER SO THAT A SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS REPORT COULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE XCSS IN THE FALL. SIMANTOV IS FLEXIBLE AS TO WHETHER ONE OR TWO EXPERT GROUPS WOULD BE CONVENED (HIS ORIGINAL IDEA WAS FOR TWO GROUPS, ONE HANDLING GRAINS AND THE OTHER LIVESTOCK) AND AS TO WHETHER THE EXPERTS WOULD WORK IN PARIS OR IN THEIR CAPITALS.

3. MISSION STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT U.S. BE WILLING TO PROVIDE EXPERTS FOR THIS WORK. OECD WORK ON SUBJECT OF EAST-WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS IS THE RESULT OF AN INITIATIVE BY THE U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE IN 1976, AND UP TO NOW ACTIVITY IN THE AGRICULTURE FIELD HAS BEEN LIMITED. THIS IS, HOWEVER, CLEARLY ONE OF THE MOST VISIBLE EXAMPLES OF EAST-WEST INTERACTION AND INTERDEPENDENCE. WE FEEL SIMANTOV'S CONCEPT OF THE EXPERTS MEETING IS A GOOD WAY TO GET AROUND THE PROBLEM OF BUDGETARY STRINGENCY, WHICH HAS MEANT THAT TIME ALLOCATED TO EAST-WEST WORK WITHIN THE AGRICULTURE DIRECTORATE WOULD HAVE TO BE REPROGRAMMED FROM OTHER ACTIVITIES AND THUS REMAIN MARGINAL.

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4. USOECD AGRICULTURE ATTACHE HIRSCH EXPECTS TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE USDA INPUT TO THE PROJECT IN WASHINGTON MAY 10-12.

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 11-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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